



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Department
Office of Governor Deval L. Patrick
Press Release**

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**GOVERNOR PATRICK ANNOUNCES INVESTMENTS
TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE STATE'S ECONOMIC
AND EDUCATIONAL FUTURE IN SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH FIELDS**

"Gateway to the Future" will focus on moving Massachusetts forward in STEM Initiatives

WORCESTER – Tuesday, October 21, 2014 – Governor Deval Patrick today announced \$750,000 in funding from the STEM Pipeline Fund will be allocated to the next phase of the @Scale Initiative to promote and advance student interest, engagement and educator effectiveness in STEM education at the 11th Annual STEM Summit held at Worcester's DCU Center. Massachusetts is recognized as a national leader in STEM education as a result of the Patrick Administration's strategic investments in programs and initiatives that are developing a highly skilled workforce, fostering economic development and ultimately positioning the Commonwealth as a leader in the 21st century innovation-based global economy.

"The STEM disciplines are essential building blocks of a 21st century highly skilled workforce," said Governor Deval Patrick. "Our investment in STEM education will continue to pay dividends for generations to come."

The @Scale Initiative supports STEM projects that demonstrate previous success in areas that directly support the state's STEM Plan goals and brings them to new areas across Massachusetts to reach more students and teachers. Since 2011, the Patrick Administration has allocated \$1.1 million dollars to the @Scale initiative, and has brought in more than \$4 million in outside funding from industry and foundation partners, including Mathworks, Linde Foundation, Mott Philanthropic, Verizon, EMC Corporation and Intel. These projects have engaged over 8,000 students and 220 teachers. The @Scale Initiative builds upon the Patrick Administration's strategic plan tying economic and workforce development to educational enhancement in STEM fields.

"One of the great legacies of the Patrick Administration will be a commitment to workforce development second to none," said Congressman Joe Kennedy. "Since taking office Governor Patrick has championed access to education across the state, working tirelessly to ensure our modern economy leaves no one behind. This latest round of investment in the STEM Council's @Scale initiative will allow us to continue building the strongest education to employment pipeline in the nation. I want to thank

the Governor and my Council Co-chair Dr. Jeffrey Leiden for their efforts to ensure our Commonwealth's workforce has the full support of both the private and public sectors."

Today's STEM Summit is titled "Gateway to the Future" to emphasize the strategies and opportunities launched in Massachusetts' Gateway cities, former strongholds of manufacturing and production that continue to struggle with the challenges of transitioning to a new economic model. The Summit's schedule includes 44 break-out sessions with panels, workshops, seminars and discussions lead by leaders in business, education and government that address issues such as teacher training and the Common Core, job training, partnerships between education and industry, fostering STEM culture beyond the classroom, teaching advanced concepts in math and computer science and defining career pathways. Massachusetts has the longest running STEM Summit in the country, with more than 1,300 attendees this year.

"The integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and the arts is critical for our student's future success," said Secretary of Education Matthew Malone. "I am proud that the Patrick Administration has dedicated so many resources into the development of critical curriculum, as this will help propel our students to compete in the global economy."

"One reason our innovation economy is strong and growing is because of our state's well-trained and skilled workforce," said Secretary Bialecki. "By bringing successful STEM education and training opportunities to students in every region of the Commonwealth, these funds will help ensure our next generation is equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary for these 21st century careers."

Today's STEM Summit also provided an opportunity for the Governor's Women in the Workplace initiative to actively recruit men and women to sign up to mentor female students who are interested in pursuing STEM programs. Under the leadership of Secretary Rachel Kaprielian, the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development has partnered with the Southern New England Girls Collaborative to recruit 10,000 mentors over the next four years to actively support the growth of women who are interested and prepared for well-paying STEM jobs.

"The Patrick Administration has also made a priority of recruiting more girls and women into the STEM fields as part of the Governor's recent action agenda on Women in the Workforce," said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Rachel Kaprielian. "More women in higher-paying occupations like STEM will help eliminate the wage gap and provide more support for their families."

As a result of the STEM Advisory Council's work over the last three years, the Patrick Administration has helped to form partnerships with key stakeholders in academia and industry that have led to funding support for STEM education as the Commonwealth builds a strong foundation for future academic success. Recognizing the Commonwealth's position as a national leader in STEM fields, the Administration has developed a number of strategies to encourage students to pursue careers in these

areas. These include the establishment of six STEM early college high schools, expanding and strengthening Regional STEM Networks, bolstering STEM Advanced Placement (AP) participation, training a specialized cadre of 250 STEM teachers, providing more technical assistance to districts wanting to improve STEM programs, the creation of the STEM Teacher Corps and substantially enhancing professional and curriculum development opportunities throughout the state.

In 2009, Governor Patrick signed Executive Order No. 513, creating the Governor's STEM Advisory Council. The Council is now codified in law. Massachusetts, which has been recognized by the National Governor's Association's Center for Best Practices, Change the Equation and Innovate+Educate as a top STEM state, annually hosts today's STEM Summit for Pre-K through Higher Education professionals across the Commonwealth to review the state's progress, discuss STEM Plan 2.0 and explore how to best expand interest in and opportunity for growth in the STEM fields. Massachusetts was also rated number one by the U.S. Department of Education on the nationwide Race to the Top Competition. The Council is Co-Chaired by Honorary Co-Chair Congressman Joe Kennedy and the CEO of Vertex Dr. Jeffrey Leiden.

Please visit <http://www.mass.edu/stem/> to learn more about the STEM Advisory Council.

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